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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Serial No. 10/821,723 Page 1 of 9

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant: Merry, et al.

Case: 8676/DISPLAY/AKT/RKK

Serial No.: 10/821,723

Filed: April 8, 2004

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: 1765

Confirmation No.: 1522

TITLE:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IN-SITU FILM STACK

PROCESSING

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment. The Applicants believe no fee is due in connection with this amendment. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 20-0782 for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.